

Mr. SABLAN. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mr. SABLAN asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SABLAN. Mr. Speaker, this legislation will allow the Indian Nation's Council of the Boy Scouts to expand a very popular adventure camp in Oklahoma. The Scouts would pay fair market value for an additional 140 acres of Forest Service land to be added to the existing camp.

Mr. Speaker, the Boy Scouts are a beloved organization dedicated to education and public service. The sale of this parcel to the Scouts is a good use of public lands, and we support the legislation.

I would also like to acknowledge that my good friend, Mr. BOREN, has been a tireless champion for this bill and for the Boy Scouts and is to be commended for his work over several years on behalf of this proposal.

I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 473.

I yield the balance of my time to the good gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. BOREN).

Mr. BOREN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge passage of H.R. 473, the HALE Scouts Act. This bill grants the U.S. Forest Service the authority to sell roughly 140 acres of land to the Indian Nation's Council of Boy Scouts. The land for conveyance is adjacent to the Scouts' summer camp, Camp Tom Hale, located in Talihina, Oklahoma.

The Indian Nation's Council of Boy Scouts is a nonprofit organization, providing educational programs for boys and young adults to build character, to train in the responsibilities of citizenship, and to develop personal fitness.

Camp Tom Hale first opened in June 1930 to serve Boy Scouts in McAlester, Oklahoma. It was originally located in what is now Robbers Cave State Park near Wilburton, Oklahoma. In 1963, the Boy Scout Council in McAlester worked with the State of Oklahoma and the U.S. Forest Service to exchange the camp at Robbers Cave for 480 acres of wilderness area in the Ouachita National Forest. This "new" Camp Hale has continued as a summer adventure camp, serving thousands of Scouts during the intervening 41 years.

In 1997, the council board developed a strategic plan for a \$3.5 million expansion and renovation of the camp. Since then, the council has spent in excess of \$1 million continually updating and expanding facilities to meet the needs of scouts. As a result, a renewed emphasis on wilderness and outdoors has flourished, with over 6,000 scouts and leaders from a five-State area attending weekly sessions offered in June and July and enjoying the beautiful Ouachita Forest.

□ 1630

Attendance has now exceeded the maximum number of available campsites and program areas, which is causing Camp Hale to begin turning away

hundreds of scouts each summer. It is now critical for camp growth that the boundaries be extended to include more area for camping and additional program and training services.

Successful completion of this objective will allow the Boy Scouts to continue the expansion of outdoor and leadership training for thousands of youths living in the central Southwest and bring additional usage and enjoyment of the Ouachita Forest for more families.

I want to emphasize that the Boy Scouts will pay fair market value, as was mentioned before, for this land, so that this bill will actually bring money to the U.S. Government.

It is for the benefit of these thousands of young men across a five-State area that I proudly sponsored this measure. I greatly appreciate the House's consideration of the bill and would like to urge my colleagues to support this bill, this legislation. I can think of no greater thing that we can do than to invest in our young people. And how can you be against the Boy Scouts?

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Mr. Speaker, to be honest, I had some doubts about this piece of legislation. But after the eloquence of the gentleman from Oklahoma, he has removed any doubts as to the viability of this piece of legislation. It's obviously a brilliant bill and will be a capstone to his career.

I urge its adoption, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SABLAN. Mr. Speaker, I associate myself also with my good friend Mr. BISHOP. How can anyone be against the Boy Scouts?

I ask my colleagues to support this legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 473, "Help to Access Land for the Education of Scouts Act," which requires the conveyance of specified National Forest System land in the Ouachita National Forest in Oklahoma to the Indian Nations Council, Inc., of the Boy Scouts of America. This legislation is appropriate and necessary for the continuation of the very principles that Boy Scouts of America stands for.

Currently, the Indian Nations Council serves more than 28,000 youth and 5,500 adult volunteers throughout 18 counties in eastern Oklahoma. Over the past century, the Council has positively impacted hundreds of thousands of Scouts and their families. However, due to the increased growth of the scouting program in Eastern Oklahoma, attendance at Camp Tom Hale has surpassed the maximum number of available campsites and program capacity. In turn, the organization has been forced to turn away many scouts and their families. There is a critical need to serve more scouts. However, more land is needed to ensure the quality of camping and experience for the scouts. Boundaries need to be extended to help accommodate more scouts, and to maximize their camp experience.

Boy Scouts of America is a prominent values-based organization that has helped to

mold young boys into model citizens, while simultaneously building character and promoting physical fitness. I do not feel that anyone, or the lack of sufficient land should deprive more of our youth from taking full advantage of all of the possibilities that Boy Scouts of America, specifically, the Indian Nations Council provides. I believe it is the responsibility of myself, as well as my colleagues, to ensure that we do everything in our ability to ensure that we pass H.R. 473 so that we can aid our young men in their development.

If passed, H.R. 473 will allow the Indian Nations Council to purchase an additional 140 acres of U.S. Forest Service land immediately adjacent to the existing Camp Tom Hale facility. To add to this, the Indian Nations Council can expect to have more scouts participate in their summer camps, without the burden of having to turn eager scouts away.

H.R. 473 can benefit the overall well being of the public by providing the Indian Nations Council of Boy Scouts of America with the adequate and necessary space needed to accommodate the growing number of scouts. It is essential that we pass H.R. 473 because organizations such as Boy Scouts of America are the driving force behind the leaders of tomorrow. By providing these young men, as well as their adult leaders with the proper space they need, we will simultaneously provide our youth with a place where they can live up to the morals and standards of the organization's mission.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Utah (Mr. BISHOP) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 473, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages in writing from the President of the United States were communicated to the House by Mr. Williams, one of his secretaries.

#### HOOVER POWER ALLOCATION ACT OF 2011

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 470) to further allocate and expand the availability of hydroelectric power generated at Hoover Dam, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 470

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Hoover Power Allocation Act of 2011".

#### SEC. 2. ALLOCATION OF CONTRACTS FOR POWER.

(a) SCHEDULE A POWER.—Section 105(a)(1)(A) of the Hoover Power Plant Act of 1984 (43 U.S.C. 619a(a)(1)(A)) is amended—

(1) by striking "renewal";

(2) by striking "June 1, 1987" and inserting "October 1, 2017"; and

(3) by striking Schedule A and inserting the following: